

A Deep-water Cowrie from the West Coast.—While working through the Western Australian Museum collection of cowries recently I discovered a specimen which, because of the location given, is of great significance in the zoogeography of its species group. It is one of the pale, whitish, deep-water forms of *Zoila*, and is labelled as having been dredged by the F.I.S. *Endeavour* in 1912 in "60-100 fathoms, between Fremantle and Geraldton." The specimen was placed in the Museum collection by Mr. W. B. Alexander (Cat. No. 4999).

Previously this form had been recorded only from a similar depth in the western section of the Great Australian Bight (see D. L. Serventy, *Journ. Roy. Soc. W.A.*, 23, 1937: 78, for description and illustration). It is considered to be the deep-water form of the South Australian species, *Zoila thersites* (Gaskoin), and Iredale described it as a subspecies, *Z. t. contraria* (*Aust. Zool.*, 8, 1935: 107).
—B. R. WILSON, W.A. Museum, Perth.

Masked Plover in the South-West.—V. N. Serventy and W. H. Butler (*W.A. Nat.*, 5, 1957: 235) record the Spur-winged Plover (*Lobibyx novae-hollandiae*) for the first time in the South-West of W.A. This record is from Lake Muir.

It was much to my surprise when a child brought to school the description of a bird which appeared to be a Spur-winged Plover from Narrikup, 11 miles south of Mt. Barker and 60 miles east of Lake Muir. The description, however, differed in that the bird had a black cap on the head, with no trace of black on the neck or sides of the breast. I investigated the report and the bird proved to be undoubtedly a Masked Plover (*Lobibyx miles*).

The bird was seen on the property of Mr. W. Ford, 7 miles west of Narrikup, on June 6, 1957. It was near a small dam and allowed approach to about 20 yards. Examination was made with a pair of 10 x 50 binoculars and a field sketch was drawn, as reproduced herewith.



The bird was noticeably larger than a Banded Plover (*Zonifer tricolor*), especially in flight and the only black on it was in the form of a cap on the crown. The wings were a similar brown to the Banded Plover, entire underparts white and a yellow wattle on the face was noted. This wattle was not as large as that seen in kodachromes of the Masked Plover from the Kimberleys.